



San Francisco 2026 USA Women's Match Racing World Championship



30 September to 04 October, 2026 San Francisco, USA

The Organizing Authority is the St. Francis Yacht Club (StFYC) in conjunction with World Sailing

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI)

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as detailed in NoR 1.
- 1.2 When the umpires proceed under RRS C8.7 they will be guided by
Addendum PENALTIES FOR DAMAGE .
- 1.3 Further to NoR 1.4, the RRS is changed as follows:
 - (a) When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.
 - (b) RRS 32 is deleted and replaced with: 'After the starting signal, the RC may abandon or shorten any match for any reason, after consulting with the match umpires when practical.'
 - (c) Within a flight, when a visual signal is displayed over a numeral pennant, the signal applies to that match only. This changes Race Signals.
- 1.4 Addendum 'HANDLING PROVIDED BOATS' contains the rules for handling of boats and the equipment.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the SI will be posted before 09.00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 21.00 on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.2 Flag L over the numeral pennant of the most recent amendment will be displayed ashore on the day it will take effect until the boats have departed for the racecourse.
- 2.3 Changes to a SI may be made on the water. These will be signalled by the display of flag 3rd substitute with three sound signals from the Race Committee Vessel ('RCV'). An umpire may communicate these RC changes either verbally or in writing.

3 COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 On the water, the RC intends to monitor and communicate with boats on VHF radio channel 69. Boats should monitor this channel at all times while on the water.
- 3.2 Notices to competitors will be posted online on the Official Notice Board at the event website.
- 3.3 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located on the StFYC Race Deck.
- 3.4 Skippers shall attend the briefings held at the StFYC on October 1-4, 2026 at 0900 unless excused by the OA. Also see NOR 10.2.
- 3.5 Umpires will be available to provide a debrief following the completion of racing each day.
- 3.6 All teams are requested to monitor VHF channel 69 between stages as the RC may broadcast pairing information for the next stage.
- 3.7 The umpires may also provide pairing information to the competitors verbally. Failure to receive these notifications will not be grounds for redress.
- 3.8 Competitors may contact the RC on VHF 69 in emergencies, to report damage, or in response to a request from the RC.

4 BOATS AND SAILS

- 4.1 Boats will be identified by bow numbers.
- 4.2 The sail combination to be used will be signalled from the RCV with or before the attention signal. The signals will have the following meanings:
No Signal: Mainsail, Jib and Spinnaker
Flag T (Tango): Mainsail, Jib, no spinnaker
- 4.3 At a mark of the course, the RC may display Flag T (Tango) with multiple sounds to indicate that no spinnakers shall be used for the remainder of the race.

5 FLIGHTS AND MATCHES

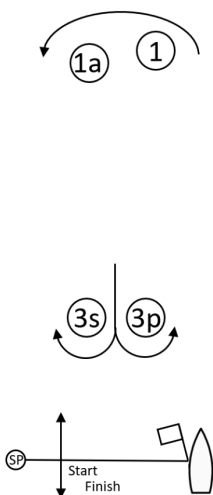
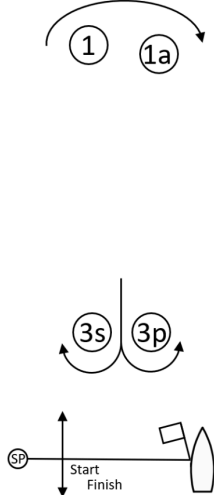
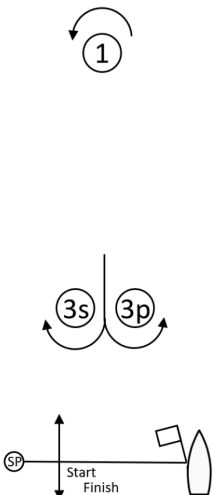
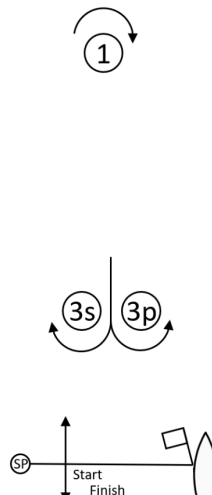
Further to NoR 9 'Event Format':

- 5.1 Match pairing lists will be provided at the briefings or may be distributed on the water if a new stage commences part way through a racing day.
- 5.2 The flight number will be displayed on the stern of the RCV.
- 5.3 The RC may change the order of matches within a flight to allow starts to be brought forward to eliminate blank starts or to add a delayed match start to the end of a flight. The RC, or an umpire on behalf of the RC, will advise Competitors of any such change verbally or by VHF radio.
- 5.4 Should SI 5.3 not be applied and a match cannot start at its intended time, the signals and starts of the following matches will remain as originally scheduled, leaving a blank start for the pair not starting. The numerical pennant of the match not starting will be displayed from the time of the warning signal to the starting signal for the blank start. The RC will advise competitors of any such change by VHF radio.

6 COURSES

6.1 Configuration (not to scale)

Note: The relative location of the 1 marks may change.

Course 1 - W/L Port Rounding With Offset		Course 3 – W/L Starboard Rounding With Offset		Course 2 - W/L Port Rounding Without Offset		Course 4 – W/L Starboard Rounding Without Offset	
							
Signal	Mark Rounding Order	Signal	Mark Rounding Order	Signal	Mark Rounding Order	Signal	Mark Rounding Order
11	Start - 1 - 1a - Finish	31	Start - 1 - 1a - Finish	21	Start - 1 - Finish	41	Start - 1 - Finish
12	Start - 1 - 1a - 3s/3p - 1 - 1a - Finish	32	Start - 1 - 1a - 3s/3p - 1 - 1a - Finish	22	Start - 1 - 3s/3p - 1 - Finish	42	Start - 1 - 3s/3p - 1 - Finish
13	Start - 1 - 1a - 3s/3p - 1 - 1a - 3s/3p - 1 - 1a - Finish	33	Start - 1 - 1a - 3s/3p - 1 - 1a - 3s/3p - 1 - 1a - Finish	23	Start - 1 - 3s/3p - 1 - 3s/3p - 1 - Finish	43	Start - 1 - 3s/3p - 1 - 3s/3p - 1 - Finish

- 6.2 No later than the warning signal, the RCV will display a placard designating the course to be sailed.
- 6.3 If mark 1a is missing and has not been replaced with an object displaying Flag M, mark 1a shall be ignored.
- 6.4 In the event one gate mark is missing, the remaining mark shall be rounded to starboard.

7 MARKS / STARTING AND FINISHING LINE

- 7.1 Marks 1, 3s and 3p are a yellow MarkSetBot.
- 7.2 The pin end (Mark SP) will be an orange MarkSetBot **or** an orange flag on an RC markset boat.
- 7.3 The new or replacement mark, as provided in SI 8, will be a green MarkSetBot.
- 7.4 The starting and finishing line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RCV at the starboard end of the line and the course side of Mark SP.
- 7.5 When the autonomous marks (MarkSetBots) are used, routine movement of the marks will not be grounds for redress. This includes minor readjustments or marks returning to station after being pushed away by a boat. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

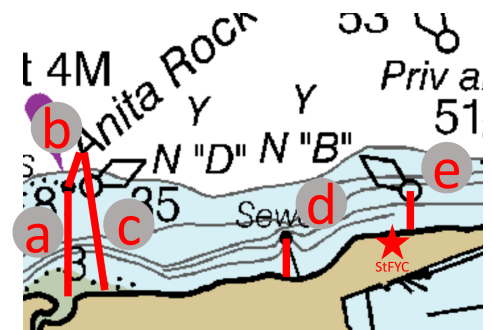
8 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 8.1 To change the next leg of the course, the RC will signal the colour of what mark is now ending the next leg. RRS 33 and Race Signals is changed as follows:
 - 8.1.1 Board C with a colored segment or the Charlie flag displayed with a colored flag means: "The windward mark has been moved. Sail to a mark the same color as the board."
 - 8.1.2 When a change of course after starting only affects some matches, these will be designated by the appropriate numeral pennant.
 - 8.1.3 One (1) mark of the leeward gate or the finishing line may be moved without signal while boats are on the first half of the leg. This changes RRS 33.
 - 8.1.4 When a change of course is made for the first leg, the signal will be displayed from the RCV with the preparatory signal for each match affected. The preparatory signal will be followed by a series of repetitive sound signals.
 - 8.1.5 When a change of course is signaled after the first leg it will be displayed from a vessel in the vicinity of mark 3s/3p.
- 8.2 The race committee may change a leg of the course by up to five (5) degrees in bearing and/or 0.05nm in length without a signal. This changes rule 35.

9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

Any line bounded by the following points is designated as an obstruction. Boats are prohibited from crossing any of these lines when sailing in or near the racing area and intend to race, are racing, or have been racing.

- 9.1 StFYC inner mark "B" and the closest point ashore. (e)
- 9.2 The "H" Beam piling and the closest point ashore -located approximately 200 yards west of StFYC. (d)
- 9.3 Anita Rock Light located approximately 0.30nm west of StFYC ("Anita Rock" Q 20ft 5M) and the closest point ashore (a)
- 9.4 Anita Rock Light and "ARo" - located approximately 45 yards at 350 degrees from Anita Rock Light (b)
- 9.5 Yellow buoy "ARo" as defined above and the closest point ashore (c)



10 BREAKDOWN and TIME FOR REPAIRS

- 10.1 Before the attention signal of a flight or within two minutes of finishing or within five minutes of changing into a new boat, whichever is later, a boat may display flag L to signal breakdown or damage to the boat, her sails or injury to her crew and request a delay to the next start. She shall proceed as soon as possible to a position just to leeward of the RCV and remain there, unless otherwise directed.
- 10.2 The time allowed for repairs will be at the discretion of the RC.
- 10.3 After the attention signal of a flight, a match will not be postponed or abandoned due to breakdown unless the breakdown signal was displayed as required by SI 10.1.
- 10.4 Except when RRS 61.4 (b) (2) or (3) applies, failure to effect repairs in the time allowed, or breakdowns after the attention signal shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.

11 TIME LIMIT

A boat that does not Finish within 5 minutes after her opponent has Sailed the Course has retired from that race.

12 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please go to www.stfyc.com or contact:

Regatta Chair	Justin Oberbauer	oberbauer@gmail.com	+1 (415) 205-0026
Race Director	Felix Weidling	racedirector@stfyc.com	+1 (415) 820-3710
Course Race Officer	Becky Ashburn	rebecca.ashburn5@gmail.com	+1 (702) 580 3230
WS Technical Delegate	Niall McLeod	niallmcLeod@gmail.com	+44 7917 880 595
Race Office	Macy Deam	racing@stfyc.com	+1 (415) 655-7756

SI ADDENDUM 'LIST OF ELIGIBLE SKIPPERS'

Skipper Name	Country	Ranking
P. COURTOIS	FRA	1
A. OSTLING	SWE	2
J. AARTSEN	NLD	4
M. CARLSSON	SWE	5
M. THOMSON	NZL	6
N. BREault	USA	7
J. D'AMODIO	FRA	8
K. MARIE MAURITZEN	DNK	10
A. BLECHER	USA	11
L. BAAB	USA	13
J. COSTANZO	AUS	14
L. GOUT	FRA	18

*World Sailing Ranking as on the 31st of August 2026.